



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

Utah Field Office · PO Box 25007 · Salt Lake City, Utah 84125
(800) 747-8522 · (801) 524-3090 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Issue 25 Week Ending August 26, 2012

John Hilton, Director

Released August 27, 2012

Agricultural Summary

For the week ending August 26, 2012 there was a reported 6.7 days suitable for field work. **Box Elder County** reported another dry week. Field work slowed a little while many farmers and ranchers took time to attend the County Fair. Conditions reported in **Cache County** also continue to be hot and dry. Some irrigation companies have completely run out of irrigation water while most others have significantly reduced the amount of water available to their shareholders. **Garfield/Kane Counties** report that monsoon rains continue improving conditions. **Iron County** reported almost daily rains greatly improved soil moisture conditions. **San Juan and Summit Counties** report that some areas have limited water, while in other areas irrigation water has run out.

Field Crop Summary

Beaver County afternoon rains are slowing down 3rd crop alfalfa harvest but have otherwise improved growing conditions. In **Box Elder County** farmers continued to cut and bale the 3rd crop of alfalfa hay. Some farmers in the Corinne area reported the 4th cutting of alfalfa, much of it for green chop, was removed from fields and they are irrigating the ground back for another crop. Farmers were also busy irrigating corn. Due to the hot, dry weather this year, some corn has been irrigated 7 times. Some farmers should begin harvesting corn silage in the next 10 days to 2 weeks. Some producers have reported infestations of spider mites and have done some spraying. The wheat and other small grain harvest is almost completed, and wheat producers have also worked grain stubble fields and are in the process of irrigating to establish some soil moisture for fall planting. Some irrigated safflower was reported cut this week. The crop looked good but there have been no reports on yields. Much of the safflower on dry land acres is in poor shape due to poor stand establishment this spring with dry soils. In **Cache County** growers are expected to begin chopping corn within 10 to 14 days. Safflower harvest will begin soon and growers anticipate lower yields because of the dry weather. **Garfield/Kane Counties** report that heavy rains have improved growing conditions, but have caused problems with hay harvest. **Iron County** reports that almost daily rain has made putting up hay a challenge for farmers. **Morgan County** farmers report that corn is behind normal maturity. First cutting of alfalfa was poor, second cutting was good. In **San Juan and Summit Counties**, 3rd crop alfalfa is starting to be cut and baled. Rain in upper **Wayne County** is affecting the quality of oat hay and 2nd crop alfalfa hay. Farmers are hoping for a drying trend. Alfalfa quality is beginning to suffer because of the moisture. **Weber County** reports that crops are doing well and market is strong.

Livestock Summary

Beaver County reports afternoon rains have greatly improved pastures and range. In **Box Elder County** livestock continue to graze on the summer ranges. Pasture for the fall livestock feed is expected to be difficult to find. Producers will ship lambs and calves early and may reduce the number of animals in their herds. Range conditions are very dry and many ranchers are reporting that they will be coming off summer ranges early this year. In **Cache County** producers are concerned about fall grazing and it appears most will be short of feed for their animals. In **San Juan and Summit Counties** ranchers report livestock look good on summer ranges. Ranchers are concerned about fall grazing and the price of hay to feed their livestock this winter.

Crop Progress for Week Ending August 26, 2012

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley Harvested (Grain)	94	88	78	82
Oats Harvested (Grain)	83	63	48	60
Oats Harvested Silage/Hay	94	93	96	96
Spring Wheat Harvested	96	88	60	72
Corn Dough Stage	56	23	17	44
Alfalfa Third Cutting	83	82	25	41
Peach Harvested	33	32	18	33

Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending August 26, 2012

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Range & Pasture	16	32	36	16	0
Corn	0	5	21	53	21
Sheep	0	1	21	69	9
Cattle/calves	0	2	25	63	10

Soil Moisture for Week Ending August 26, 2012

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	30	47	23	0
Subsoil	32	43	25	0
Irrigation water supplies	35	32	33	0
Stock water supplies	22	43	35	0